

From: [Travis W Janak](mailto:Travis.W.Janak@ag.tamu.edu)
To: wlr@tamu.edu
Subject: Fwd: Chris Lein
Date: Sunday, November 01, 2009 7:11:09 PM

Dr. Rooney,

Attached is an email from Chris Lein, CEO of United Growers in California, who I met at a Jatropha conference last year. He is interested in planting a lot of sweet sorghum in some other tropical countries where they are currently planting jatropha. I believe he is specifically interested in the quote below from an A&M publication about producing potassium from vinasse. I didn't know if you would be interested or could refer him to someone who would know more about this.

Thanks,

Travis Janak
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>>> Chris Lein <Chris.lein@unitedgrowers.com> 10/30/2009 4:10 PM >>>
Travis,

Can you please facilitate an introduction to the head of the program looking at Sweet Sorghum. We have multiple projects (several hundred thousand hectares) on which we can execute. We're very interested in Texas A&M's work with Sweet Sorghum and with potential by-products that can be produced from the plant.

Of particular and immediate interest is validating, and referenced from a paper:

The third feedstock scenario (Corn) uses only corn and serves as a base for comparing the sweet sorghum scenarios. In the first two scenarios, sweet sorghum ethanol production received an added benefit from the generation and sale of excess green electricity from bagasse and the sale of potassium fertilizer, derived from the vinasse. Vinasse was assumed to accumulate at a rate of one gallon (9 pounds) per gallon of ethanol produced (or 4 pounds of potassium). Sweet sorghum alcohol production was estimated to generate 70 kWh of electricity per ton of bagasse, based on the electricity production from sugarcane bagasse (Brandao 2008). Processing sweet sorghum into ethanol is estimated to consume 15.5 kWh per ton, leaving a surplus of green electricity for sale in the SSM scenario and

reducing the energy
cost in the SS + Corn scenario.

ref:

Economic Feasibility of Ethanol Production from Sweet Sorghum Juice
in Texas

Brittany D. Morris et. al,
Agricultural & Food Policy Center
Department of Agricultural Economics, Texas A&M University
2124 TAMUS
College Station, TX 77843-2124
979-845-5913
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If we could set up a call for this weekend or Monday it would be very
helpful.

Sincerely,
Chris

Christopher Lein
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The United Growers Company (UGC) designs, builds and turn-keys biofuel/

biomass feedstock operations known as UGC Greenfields. Our
headquarters is in the world renowned agricultural center of Salinas,

California.

UGC Greenfields are individually tailored to exploit the unique
characteristics, and to overcome the specific challenges, of their
growing environment. Our vertically integrated and comprehensive
solutions include site selection, plant material, farm establishment
and the appropriate level of mechanization required to achieve optimum

performance and to deliver commercial levels of sustainable energy.

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